FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

6 DECEMBER 1983

Lebanon

Israeli Planes Downed — An Israeli plane was downed and its pilot captured when Israeli aircraft overflew the Al-Biqa' valley on 6 December, Beirut radio reported. Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon said the Israeli aircraft were raiding Syrian positions in the area. Earlier, the Syrians shot down an Israeli drone, according to the radios.

Syrian Reaction to U.S. Raids — The U.S. air raid on Syrian positions in Lebanon was "part of the U.S.-Israeli design" reached during the Israeli prime minister's visit to Washington, Defense Minister General Mustafa Talas declared in a statement carried by SANA. Syria's air defenses have a legitimate right to defend Syrian forces, which will "always confront any foreign air force" overflying their positions, he added. Talas announced in remarks reported by Beirut radio that the American pilot will be released "when the war ends and when the Americans leave Lebanon." The pilot is in good condition and will be shown to journalists soon after the completion of his interrogation, Talas stated. He also said the body of the U.S. pilot killed in the raid will be returned to the United States.

Meanwhile, President Hafiz al-Asad sent written messages to Arab and world leaders warning that the U.S. intervention in Lebanon and agreement with Israel may lead to a military attack on Lebanon, Syria, and the Arab nation, Damascus television reported. In an official statement carried by SANA, the Syrian Government called on all the Arabs to "confront" the threat posed by the U.S.-Israeli "agreements of a strategic nature" and announced that it is studying ways to "redress the balance" of forces in the region.

Earlier, in a commentary on the U.S. justification for the raid, Damascus radio asked rhetorically what President Reagan might say if another country carried out reconnaissance flights over U.S. bases in the FRG and then claimed the right to bomb U.S. forces after the latter took defensive action. Syria does not want a military dispute with the United States, the radio stressed, but sending U.S. planes to overfly Syrian positions is a "deliberate act of provocation and aggression" against which the Syrians will defend themselves.

Further Arab Reaction — The Kuwaiti Council of Ministers and Jordanian National Consultative Council condemned the U.S. raid as well as the recent U.S.-Israeli agreement, according to KUNA and Amman radio. A Riyadh radio commentary said the raid infringes the declared American peacekeeping role and is seen by observers to be linked with the U.S.-Israeli agreement. On the other hand, the Command Council of the Phalangist Lebanese Forces expressed support for all measures adopted by the Multinational Force, particularly the U.S. contingent, according to a statement broadcast by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon.

Israel

Explosion in Jerusalem — An explosive charge went off in a bus in Jerusalem, wounding about 40 people, IDF Radio reported.

U.S. Agreements — Reporting to the Knesset on his talks in Washington, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir denied speculation on secret military agreements, stating that nothing was agreed "that was not made public" and that "Israel did not undertake any military commitments whatsoever," according to IDF Radio. Shamir also reviewed the accomplishments of his visit, including agreements in the security and economic fields; an increase in the grant share of U.S. military aid; agreements to sell airport and harbor facilities to U.S. forces; and the U.S.-Israeli political-military working team, which is to hold its first meeting in January.

PLO Affairs

Preparations to evacuate PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and forces loyal to him from Tripoli are "under way," Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon radio reported, following 'Arafat's agreement that the Lebanese Internal Security Forces should oversee the withdrawal. Commenting on the withdrawal in an interview with the London-based *AL-MAJALLAH*, 'Arafat outlined four conditions to be met before he would depart: confirmation of the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinians and its unity as "inviolable," an Arab summit conference, the withdrawal of Syrian and Libyan forces from around Tripoli, and security guarantees for the Palestinian camps in northern Lebanon. On the latter point, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio cited 'Arafat's remark that "differences and vagueness" still surround the issues of security for Tripoli and the Al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid camps after the pro-'Arafat forces' withdrawal.

Meanwhile, Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi stated that he would guarantee Tripoli would not be attacked after 'Arafat's departure. In a statement cited by Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio, Al-Qadhdhafi also promised that Libya would accept 'Arafat and those with him should he decide to seek refuge in the country. Egyptian President Husni Mubarak likewise offered to host the PLO chairman in Cairo, according to 'Arafat as cited by MENA.

In exclusive remarks to the Jordanian *AD-DUSTUR*, a responsible Palestinian source affirmed that 'Arafat will leave Tripoli "soon" but maintained that his departure would not mean the end of a presence in northern Lebanon. The source revealed that the Palestinian command "stresses the need" for dialogue with Jordan based on PNC resolutions that "defined a confederation as a framework for Jordanian-Palestinian relations."

In another development, Fatah opposition leader Nimr Salih "strongly rejected" 'Arafat's call for a PNC meeting, characterizing it as "a call for separation," according to the UAE paper *AL-KHALIJ*. Salih warned that if a PNC session is held, those who attend "will be held accountable by the nationalists."

Syria

Leadership Group — A six-man collective leadership was established to run the country after President al-Asad's hospitalization last month, AFP reported citing the Paris-based weekly *AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI*. The group comprises Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Ba'th Party National Command Deputy Secretary General 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Hikmat ash-Shihabi, Generals 'Ali Haydar and Muhammad al-Khuli, and Defense Companies Commander Colonel Rif'at al-Asad, the president's brother.

Talas interview — Foreign media estimates of the number of Soviet experts in Syria are "very much exaggerated" while rumors about their departure are wishful thinking, since Soviet experts are routinely replaced every 2 years, Defense Minister Talas stated in an interview with the Paris magazine *AL-MUSTAQBAL*. As for U.S. accusations that Syria was responsible for the suicide bomb attacks on U.S., French, and Israeli forces in Lebanon, Talas said "the heroic Lebanese resistance was behind the blows dealt in Beirut and Tyre." Had the Palestinians resorted to such methods in the past, Israel would not have been established, he charged.

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Council of Ministers Approves Karmal Instructions
LD052059 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Excerpt] In today's full session, the DRA Council of Ministers discussed the instructive statement by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, dated 29 November, 1983. The statement was made to high-ranking party and state officials.

Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, spoke about these instructions from Babrak Karmal, which the council then decided to approve unanimously.

In accordance with this decision, ministries, departments,and government staff are dutybound, with consideration of Babrak Karmal's instructions, to improve the methods of their work; to enhance the level of investigation, the effectiveness of work, and control of performances; and to strengthen work discipline more than ever before.

Ministries and government establishments were ordered to prepare a plan of specific practical measures for implementing Babrak Karmal's instructions and to submit it within a few days to the Council of Ministers.

Karmal, Keshtmand Receive Soviet Ambassador
LD041933 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 4 Dec 83

[Text] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA central committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, and Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, received F.A. Tabeyev, Soviet ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, in Kabul at the Revolutionary Council's headquarters.

F.A. Tabeyev handed Babrak Karmal a congratulatory telegram from the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the CPSU Central Committee, and the USSR Council of Ministers, on the fifth anniversary of the treaty of friendship, cooperation, and good-neighborliness between the DRA and the Soviet Union.

Babrak Karmal spoke briefly about friendly and fraternal Soviet-Afghan relations: Afghan-Soviet friendship has deep roots in the history of both our countries. The foundation stone of Afghan-Soviet friendship was laid by V.I. Lenin. The victory of the October Revolution provided the opportunity for our country to sign an equal rights treaty with a great country for the first time in its history. The 1921 treaty between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union laid the foundations of friendship, friendly relations, and good-neighborliness and helped to safeguard our country's national independence, territorial integrity, and freedom.

Recalling the Soviet Union's all-round assistance for Afghanistan, Babrak Karmal said: More than 170 large and small projects in our country have been, or are being, built with Soviet assistance. This assistance has great importance to our national economy.

Babrak Karmal continued: With the victory of the April Revolution, friendly relations between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan were raised to new heights. Expansion and consolidation of fraternal relations with the Soviet Union are in full accord with the interests, desires, and wishes of the people of Afghanistan.

Babrak Karmal added: We celebrate the fifth annivesary of the treaty of friendship, cooperation and good-neighborliness with the Soviet Union at a time when our country is passing through a critical phase of its history. On the basis of this treaty, the internationalist all-round assistance of the Soviet Union with the DRA helps Afghanistan to defend our homeland's independence and territorial integrity, to defend the freedom of its people against the undeclared imperialist war, and to remain an independent nonaligned country.

The imperialist and reactionary forces, headed by U.S. imperialism, making wide use of the territory of Pakistan and the counterrevolutionary lackies, continue their interference and aggression against our homeland. However, the people of Afghanistan are determined to resolutely defend their revolution and their interests. In our just struggle, we enjoy the support and sympathy of the world's progressive forces, led by the Soviet Union, Babrak Karmal said.

He added: Therefore, on behalf of the PDPA Central Committee, the DRA Revolutionary Council, the DRA Government,and the people of Afghanistan, I thank the CPSU Central Committee,the USSR Government, and, personally, Y. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, for their continuous assistance and cooperation.

F.A. Tabayev, in his turn, during the presentation of the message from the Soviet leadership, said:— I am honored to present to you and to all the people of Afghanistan good wishes and congratulations from the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on the fifth anniversary celebration of the treaty of friendship, cooperation, and good-neighborliness between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union. The signing of this very important treaty, which expanded all-round cooperation between our countries, brought about new relations and opened new prospects in relations between our two countries. Once again I express my best wishes to you dear comrades, Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council; and Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Dra Council of Ministers, on the occasion of this auspicious anniversary.

Ziray Talks With CPSU's Khomyakov 5 Dec
LD060003 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Text] Dr Saleh Mohammad Ziray, Politburo member, secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, and president of the NFF

[National Fatherland Front] Central Council, this morning received A.A. Khomyakov, member of the CPSU Central Committee, member of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and first secretary of the Tombov Oblast Provincial Party Committee. The meeting was held in a friendly and sincere atmosphere.

During these friendly talks, held in the presence of Bareq Shafi'i, member of the party Central Committee and first deputy chairman of the NFF, topics concerning the activities of the NFF were discussed. The Soviet delegation promised all-round cooperation with the NFF.

According to BAKHTAR, Khomyakov, accompanied by Saleh Mohammad Ziray and Bareq Shafi'i, then toured sections of the NFF and the Afghan-Soviet friendship office.

Reportage on Recent Mujahidin Activities

Helicopter Downing

BK021641 Hong Kong AFP in English 1635 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] Islamabad, Dec 2 (AFP) — Afghan dissidents yesterday shot down a Soviet gunship near Khowst, capital of the eastern province of Paktia, resistance sources said here today. Khowst, once a stronghold of the Khalq faction of the ruling Communist Party of Afghanistan, has been besieged by rebel forces for over three months.

Rebel sources said the [word indistinct] helicopter was shot down when Soviet gunships attacked dissident positions around Khowst as the rebels attempted to penetrate the city. The guerrillas, equipped with Dashaka heavy machineguns and rockets, hit the gunship, which crash-landed in the rebel-controlled village of Shah Bok, the sources said.

However, Soviet forces succeeded in rescuing the pilot and totally destroying the damaged helicopter under cover of heavy shelling and ground-to-air rocket fire, they said.

The sources said Afghan rebels had so far destroyed eight Soviet military aircraft, including transport planes and helicopters, since they began their siege of the city.

Officer Defection

BK021633 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] In Afghanistan, an officer of the Karmal forces, Lieutenant (Syed Mahmud Shah) is reported to have fled the Arghun military headquarters in Paktia Province along with a tank and joined the mujahidin on 27 November. This was the only tank remaining in that area as the mujahidin had destroyed or damaged all other tanks. The mujahidin have been besieging Arghun for the last 4 months.

According to another report, the mujahidin destroyed the Gul-i-Surkhab military post in hand to hand fighting on 24 November. The post is near Jalalabad along the Kabul-Jalalabad highway. During the fighting, the mujahidin killed a number of militiamen while capturing four alive.

Soviet General's Death

BK031503 Hong Kong AFP in English 1452 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Text] Islamabad, Dec 3 (AFP) — Soviet Army General Vlady Anitov [name as received] died in Afghanistan when rebel forces shot down a helicopter near Kabul last month, the pro-resistance AFGHAN ISLAMIC PRESS (AIP) said here today.

Western diplomats had told newsmen here last month that the helicopter, carrying more than a dozen senior Afghan and Soviet officials, went down near Kabul on November 15 in a missile attack by Moslem rebels opposing the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. The officials were on an inspection tour of the copper mining area in the Logar Valley, they said.

AIP, quoting "rebel sources in the Afghan Army," said Gen. Anitov was among 13 senior Afghan and Soviet officials who died in the crash.

Western diplomats said Afghan Army General Mohammed Abdul Azimp, commander of the Eighth Afghan Division stationed at Kargah, also perished in the downing of the MI-8 helicopter.

Gen. Anitov is the second known Soviet general to be killed by Moslem rebels in Afghanistan. Another one died under similar circumstances in Khowst, Paktia Province, in June 1981.

Karachi Account

BK041543 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 4 Dec 83

[Text] In Afghanistan, the Afghan mujahidin shot and killed a member of the Central Committee of Karmal's National Fatherland Front, (Abdus Samad Zoha), outside his residence in Kabul 2 weeks ago, according to reports.

According to another report, the mujahidin shot down a helicopter at (Mashal) near Kabul on 14 November. Those killed in this incident included chief commander of the 8th Division of the Karmal army, Lieutenant General (Abdual Aziz), and a senior Soviet adviser General (Vlado Arokov).

Herat Province Skirmishes

GF040944 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 19 Nov 83 p 8

[Text] London, 18 Nov (AAP) — The Afghan mujahidin guerrillas during the month of October killed more than 150 government soldiers in Herat Province in several skirmishes. According to the AGENCY AFGHAN PRESS, the mujahidin, in clashes at (Karwan Sarai) and Shindand in Herat Province, bordering Iran, killed 38 Soviet and 112 Karmal soldiers. The mujahidin lost 19 men. Among the government soldiers killed was a brigadier commanding Karmal's 23d Brigade. During the clashes, 25 Karmal soldiers defected to the mujahidin side. The

mujahidin captured 38 Kalashnikov rifles and two cases of ammunition.

In another sector, the mujahidin attacked Jalalabad Garrison, killed 19 Soviet soldiers, and destroyed three Soviet tanks. The mujahidin also hit Khak-e Jabbar and (Kharoti) posts in (Bagram) area near Kabul and killed 22 Karmal soldiers. At Khak-e Jabbar, the mujahidin used mortar guns, causing more than 40 casualties among the Karmal troops. Two mujahidin were wounded during the fight.

Control of Strategic Area

LD042258 Riyadh SPA in English 1924 GMT 4 Dec 83

[Text] Islamabad, Dec 4, SPA -- Afghan mujahideen have liberated and taken full control of strategic "Darrah-ye Nur" area in northern part of Afghanistan's eastern Nangarhar Province, after a week-long battle, the AFGHAN ISLAMIC PRESS (AIP) reported here tonight. Nearly two dozen communist military posts in the area were under siege since early November, it said. The agency added that Kabul authorities had sent a large military column to rescue beleagured post on November 25, but it was completely routed by the mujahideen in the wake of fierce battle on November 26. Nearly 500 Afghan Government soldiers and militiamen surrendered to the mujahideen side the same day, it said. The agency added that the mujahideen had captured thousands of light arms.

'Counterrevolutionaries Crushed' in Provinces

'Criminals' in Parvan

LD022122 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Test] The Parvan security forces recently crushed a number of counterrevolutionaries who were disrupting the peaceful lives of the toiling people of the Kuh-e Safi, (Hofian) villages of Charikar, and (Naseri) village of Bagram District, Parvan Province. They captured a number of these criminals in (Hofian) village.

A Parvan security force spokesman said that 10 assorted weapons and 2 rocket launchers with 6 rockets and 10 mortar shells have been seized from these saboteurs in (Naseri) village, Bagram District, and that 6 weapons and a quantity of ammunition have been seized in Kuh-e Safi and (Hofian) villages of Charikar.

Rebel Leader in Qonduz

LD022117 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1600 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] In a large-scale operation that recently took place in Qaleh-ye Zal District, Qonduz Province, by the security forces and revolution defense groups, (Hedayatulah), ringleader of the (Jami'at) band, was crushed; 12 were arrested.

About 25 various types of weapons, 84 mortar shells, 20 rocket launcher shells, and nearly 9,000 Kalashnikov bullets were seized by the security forces.

According to another report, a caravan of the enemy's weapons and ammunition were totally destroyed in (Post-e Mer A'lam) by the revolution defense groups and security forces.

Government Statement on U.S. Nicaraguan Policy

LD060644 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0506 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Kabul, Dec 5, BAKHTAR — Following is a statement of the Government of the DRA:

Reports coming lately about the aggravation of tensions in various parts of the world, E.G., Europe, Middle East, Central America and Caribbean region are a cause of serious concern.

The U.S. imperialism has launched open aggression against the forces of peace and social progress.

The Reagan administration tires to cover up its actions by false propaganda about the so-called "defence of the rights of mankind" or supporting the American nationals inhabiting this or that country and shamelessly sheds the blood of innocent people.

The U.S. imperialism had resorted to such actions in Vietnam and now openly practices the same in Grenada, El Salvador, Lebanon and some other countries of the world.

The criminal undeclared imperialist war against DRA which has been continuing for more than five years is one of the examples of aggressive character of American imperialism.

The heroic people of Afghanistan who have chosen the way of building a new society in the country under the leadership of PDPA are compelled to struggle heroically against counterrevolution which is encouraged, financed, supported and armed by Washington and from the centres of some other countries and to put best of their manpower to this task.

The people of the DRA are not alone in their just struggle, but enjoy the support of all progressive forces of the world headed by Soviet Union.

Now a most dangerous situation has emerged around Nicaragua, and Washington is preparing a major armed invasion of that country using contingents of regular Armed Forces of Honduras, and Guatemala with the direct participation of traitors of Somoza bands and the U.S. Army.

These actions of American militarists which are part of the general adventuristic plan of Washington is a great and open threat and danger not only to the people of Nicaragua but also for Socialist Cuba, [word indistinct] of Latin America and national liberation movements in other parts of the world.

The action of White House policy makers and their hegemonistic and expansionist policies reveals clearly the hostile character of imperialism towards other people and humanity as a whole.

The peoples of the world, the governments of many countries and representatives of various social organizations have strongly condemned the aggressive actions of Washington and voiced

their support for the just cause of the Nicaraguan people and their struggle for independence and national sovereignty.

The Government of the DRA representing all the peaceloving Afghan people, resolutely condemns the aggressive policy of Reagan vis-a-vis Nicaragua and his reactionary plan of undermining the national sovereignty of a non-aligned country which is also a member of United Nations Organization. The Government of the DRA proclaims firm solidarity of the Afghan people with the brotherly people of Nicaragua.

[Word indistinct] to our militant Nicaraguan brothers; we are with you! All progressive mankind is with you!

All hands off from revolutionary Nicaragua!

Briefs

USSR Writers Delegation — A delegation from the USSR Union of Writers led by its first secretary, Yuriy Verchenko, arrived in Kabul today for a friendly visit and to attend celebrations of the Soviet Union Literature Days in the DRA. At Kabul International Airport, the delegation was welcomed by Dastagir Panjsheri, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and president of the DRA Union of Writers and Poets; members of the executive committee of the Union, and a number of poets and writers. [Text][Kabul Domestic Service in Dari and Pashto 1530 GMT 29 Nov 83 LD]

Islamic Foreign Ministers Conference Begins

BK060639 Dhaka BSS in English 0629 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Dhaka, Dec 6 (BSS) — The 14th Islamic conference of foreign ministers of the OIC began at the new Sangsak Bhaban (Parliament House) here this morning.

Twenty-three foreign ministers and ministers of state for foreign affairs of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) are taking part in the 5-day conference which is being held for the first time in Bangladesh. Delegation of some OIC member countries are also led by cabinet rank minister and foreign secretaries.

The inaugural session of the conference was presided over by the out-going chairman and foreign minister of Niger, Mr. Ide Oumarou. The Bangladesh president of Council of Ministers, Lt. Gen. H.M. Ersahd, addressed the inaugural session.

Though OIC is an association of 43 states, its present strength now stands at 41, following suspension of two members — Afghanistan and Egypt. 29 members states are represented at the conference.

Inaugural Addresses

BK061145 Dhaka BSS in English 1115 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Dhaka, Dec 6 (BSS) — The president of the Council of Ministers, Lt. Gen. H.M. Ershad called for closer, meaningful and active cooperation among the Muslim nations for strengthening Islamic unity and solidarity.

Addressing the 14th Islamic foreign ministers conference here this morning, the Bangladesh head of government Gen. Ershad said it was necessary to know each other better through more contacts to strengthen relations in every field and help each other whenever and wherever possible.

Gen Ershad said the Islamic world is rich in resources and there are many ways the Muslim nations could help each other to become self-reliant. But to regain its position of pre-eminence, the fundamental prerequisite for the Islamic world is to preserve the unity and solidarity, the Bangladesh leader stressed.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Dr. Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja, Sierra Leone Foreign Minister Dr. Abdulai Osman Conteh and Saudi state minister for foreign affairs, Shaykh M. Ibrahim Mas'ud, spoke respectively on behalf of Asian, African, and Arab countries.

The secretary general of the Organization of the Islamic Conference Mr Habib Chatti also addressed the inaugural session.

General Ershad pointed out that closer cooperation among the Islamic nations is the bedrock on which they can build their political strength and said since the inception of OIC, achievements within the Islamic world have been few and far between.

The Bangladesh leader said the voice of the Islamic ummah [community] must be heard loud and in clear support of just and equitable international order and to ensure peaceful life and dignity of all men, women and children. To achieve that objective, Gen. Ershad said, we must give serious thought to devising an effective method for further consolidating our relations shunning whatever differences we have.

The OIC secretary general Habib Chatti said the Muslim world could become a force to be reckoned with on the international scene "if we were guided by the almighty to organise our ranks, unite our voice and preserve our independence in the contemporary world."

The organization's chief executive said the Muslim world could become a force capable of liberating its occupied homelands to have real impact on the course of international events and assume a fundamental role in the world affairs to establish peace. He said only on that day, all the international forces shall refrain from making any significant move without taking into consideration of the attitude of the Islamic group. Mr Chatti in his lengthy speech touched upon the crisis in PLO, deterioration of situation in Lebanon, the Iraq-Iran war, the happenings of Namibia and host of other issues afflicting the international scene.

Thirty three countries including host Bangladesh are participating in the conference. Sixteen countries are represented by their foreign ministers, two by cabinet ministers, three by state ministers for foreign affairs and the rest by senior officials.

Benin, Turkish Republic of Northen Cyprus are among those attending the conference as observers.

AFP Report

BK060905 Hong Kong AFP in English 0826 GMT 6 Dec 83

[By Richard Breeze]

[Text] Dhaka, Dec 6 (AFP) — Internal conflicts and disputes are rendering the Islamic world "helpless and ineffective," Bangladeshi military ruler Lieutenant General Hussain Mohammad Ershad warned a meeting of Moslem foreign ministers here today.

Opening a five-day ministerial session of the 43-member Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC), he stressed that achievements within the Islamic world "have been few and far between."

He called for further collective efforts to end the 38-month old Iran-Iraq war, discussion of effective methods of responding to crisis situations in the Moslem world and increased funds for OIC institutions.

More than half the foreign ministers of the 41 active members of the OIC were absent from the meeting which will focus on the situation in Lebanon, the Palestinian question, the Iran-Iraq conflict and Afghanistan.

Bangladeshi officials said as the meeting opened that there were only 15 foreign ministers in Dhaka.

Well-informed Bangladeshi sources said that Gen. Ershad's government was disappointed with the low level of attendance at the meeting being held in the monolithic National Assembly building. This is not in use as parliament was dissolved after Gen. Ershad seized power 20 months ago.

Armed police cordoned off the building's park-like grounds. anti-government protests erupted in Dhaka last week and spread around the country sparking riots in which at least five people died and hundreds were injured. Dhaka was calm today but remained under a five-hour curfew.

In a tough keynote speech Gen. Ershad stressed the lack of achievements by the Islamic world. "Honesty demands that we admit (and) face up to our failures and shortcomings," he said, noting that Jerusalem and the israeli-occupied territories had stilll not been "liberated," the heavy loss of Moslem lives in fighting in Lebanon and the plight of the Palestinians.

"Our helplessness and ineffectiveness is the direct result of our internal conflicts and disputes," he said, adding that fratricidal conflicts were "consuming the energies of the Moslem world."

He called for collective efforts to end what he called the "terrible" war between Iran and Iraq. It is generally estimated that this conflict could have cost between 175,000 to 500,000 lives since it started in Sept 1980. An Islamic peace mission set up in 1981 has made fruitless efforts to end the conflict. Gen. Ershad said that the war was "a gaping wound in the body politic of Islam." He added: "If we do not end this war now, we will all bleed to death."

He called for a strengthening of the OIC and said the meeting "must give serious thought to devising an effective method of responding to crisis situations" in the Islamic world. The Bangladeshi leader maintained that economic cooperation among OIC members "has a long way to go." He said that institutions set up by the OIC — which includes some of the world's biggest oil producers among its members — were not "receiving adequate attention from the member states and are desperately short of resources."

Bangladeshi Foreign Minister A.R. Shamsud Doha told the meeting that there were 94 "substantive issues" on the agenda. The self-proclaimed Turkish republic in northern Cyprus could be among them, observers said.

A Turkish Cypriot delegation has observer status at the conference and has already called for support from the OIC. Gen. Ershad told the meeting that the "Turkish Cypriot community continues to be denied their rightful claim to a bi-zonal federal state." Mr. Doha said the conference should "attempt to heal the current rift in the Island in an honourable and just manner."

Speakers at the opening session also called for an end to factional fighting within the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Syrian-backed PLO rebels are beseiging loyalist forces of the organisation's chairman Yasir 'Arafat in the northern Lebanese port of Tripoli. OIC Secretary General Habib Chatti told the meeting that the PLO's future was in jeopardy more than ever before.

Niger's Foreign Minister Ide Oumarou said PLO conflict was "a fratricidal combat where the germ of discord has been treacherously introduced." He sid it was the OIC's "duty" to call on the Palestinian brothers to explain "why they had surrendered to the temptation of breaking their ranks." The factional fighting was "giving time and comfort to Israel," he said.

Gen. Ershad called for renewed efforts for the independence of Namibia which is administered by South Africa in defiance of United Nations rulings.

Mr. Chatti reaffirmed the OIC's "complete solidarity" with the "Namibian and South African peoples" and called for "vigorous action to counteract the existing axis between Pretoria and Tel Aviv."

Doha Meets With Pakistan's Yaqub Khan

BK051543 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Text] The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, met with the Bangladesh foreign minister, Mr Shamsud Doha, in Dhaka today. The two foreign ministers expressed their resolve to make the conference a success. Mr Shamsud Doha shed light on Bangladesh's relations with the countries of the region.

Earlier, the Pakistani foreign minister met with the leader of the Turkish delegation.

Spokesman Reiterates Stand on Lebanon

BK051713 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Text] In New Delhi today, an official spokesman reiterated India's stand that all foreign forces must withdraw from Lebanon, but the Israeli troops have to leave first and without any condition as they had committed agression.

The spokesman was replying to questions by newsmen on a reported statement by the Australian prime minister, Mr Bob Hawke, on the subject. He said he did not wish to enter into a controversy, particularly because the proceedings of CHOGM [Commonwealth heads of government meeting], where the issue was discussed, are regarded as confidential. The spokesman, however, made it clear that the point of view Mrs Gandhi was trying to put across was shared by many others who feel that the illegal presence of Israeli troops cannot be regarded as being on the same footing as the presence of Syrian troops. The Syrians had originally gone to Lebanon at the request of the Lebanese Government.

USSR's Arkhipov Arrives for Commission Meeting

BK060602 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] The first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Mr Ivan Arkhipov, arrived in New Delhi last night. He is leading a delegation to participate in the eight session of the joint India-Soviet intergovernmental commission on economic, scientific, and technological cooperation beginning in New Delhi today.

Mr Arkhipov was received at the airport among others by the external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao. Talking to newsmen at the airport, both the leaders said they look forward to the India-Soviet talks with great hope and confidence.

Mr Arkhipov said that the two countries will be signing a trade protocol and conclude an agreement for scientific and technological collaboration. He said preparations for the first joint space mission scheduled for early next year are going on. During his stay in the capital, Mr Arkhipov will call on the president and the prime minister. He will also meet the ministers for commerce, industry, and finance.

AFP Report

OW051858 Hong Kong AFP in English 1844 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Text] New delhi, dec 5 (AFP) — Soviet First Deputy Prime Minister Ivan Arkhipov announced here tonight on his arrival that India and the Soviet Union would sign a new trade protocol for next year and a separate long-term agreement on scientific and technical cooperation for 1984-87.

Mr Arkhipov would co-chair the eighth meeting of the Indo-Soviet Joint Commission, an umbrella set-up covering cooperation in various fields, beginning here tomorrow. Indian Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao is the co-chairman from the home side.

Meanwhile, trade talks are already in progress here between a visiting separate delegation from the USSR, headed by Deputy Foreign Trade Minister I.T. Grishin. This was to climax into the proposed signing of the protocol later this week.

Mr Arkhipov told reporters that he was looking forward to his talks with Indian leaders during his week-long stay here. He spoke of the possibility of both sides identifying new areas of long-term bilateral cooperation stretching into the 1990's.

Official Soviet reports earlier have said that the latest meeting of the joint commission might also discuss a standing Soviet offer to help India build a new big atomic power plant in this country.

Mr Rao greeted the Soviet deputy premier at the airport.

Mr Arkhipov, apart from attending the commission meeting, will call on President Zail Singh and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. He is also slated to have talks with various economic ministers in Mrs Gandhi's cabinet, including commerce, steel and mines, industry and finance.

Mr Arkhipov said preparations for the first Indo-Soviet space mission next year were progressing well in his country. Two Indian spacemen for the joint flight aboard a Soviet craft were now undergoing training in the USSR.

The (?5-day) mission would discuss cooperation in (?a variety) of fields but the emphasis would be on power and (?fuel) projects, earlier press reports said.

Soviet officials quoted in press reports said negotiations were already under way between the two countries on the Soviet offer to help build a new atomic power plant.

Bilateral trade has kept on steadily rising between India and the Soviet Union. A latest available Soviet estimate showed the turnover for the first half of this year stood at 15.2 billion dollars, which was 0.8 billion dollars up from the same period last year.

Local press reports here said the Soviet Union was likely to agree during the current talks to raise the annual crude oil supply to India to 3.5 million tonnes from the present 2.5 million tonnes.

'Rapid Growth' Noted in Trade With USSR

BK021452 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] There has been a rapid growth in the volume of the Indo-Soviet trade during the last decade. The Soviet Union buys almost a quarter of all jute products, tea, tobacco, and fabrics and nearly 40 percent of black pepper exported by India. It is the first foreign buyer of India's knitted woolen garments. In an annual survey, APN reports that Indian exports of these goods also exceeded 1,000 million rupees in 1982. The Soviet exports to India included highly productive machine tools, mining machinery, oil refining equipment, oil products, and fertilizers.

Opposition Urges Meeting To Settle Punjab Problem

BK030924 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Text] In Punjab, a delegation of five opposition parties called on the state governor, Mr B.D. Pande, in Chandigarh yesterday. They demanded a meeting of all political parties to decide on steps for normalizing the situation in the state. The parties are the Communist Party of India, the Communist Party of India-Marxist, Janata, Congress-S, and the Republican Party of India.

In Punjab, a number of senior Congress-I leaders and former ministers have strongly condemned the Sikh leader, Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, and other Akali leaders for their provocative and highly irresponsible statements.— They are disturbing peace in the state and spreading communal hatred between the communities in the country. The pradesh [state] Congress-I vice president, Mr Darshan Singh, and the general secretary, Mr Gurdarshan Singh Barar, are among the signatories.

Sethi Calls for Bhindranwale's Surrender

BK060554 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] The home minister, Mr P.C. Sethi, has appealed to the Akali leaders to ask Mr Bhindranwale to leave the Guru Nanek Niwas [Sikh shrine in Amritsar] and surrender to the authorities to face trial in the cases registered against him. He was replying to a special debate on the reported training camps for Punjab extremists in the Lok Sabha yesterday. Mr Sethi urged the opposition parties to persuade the Akali leaders to disassociate themselves from the extremists. He assured the house that appropriate action will be taken against the extremists. He said the government will do everything possible to maintain the unity and integrity of the country. Mr Sethi said that all the states where training camps are reported to have been held were asked to ensure that no arms training is given in any camp.

Earlier, making a statement in both houses of parliament, Mr Sethi said that all citizens irrespective of their castes, community, and religion will get full protection under the law.

In the discussions which followed, members from both sides made a strong plea to arrest the extremists trained in the special camps. There was a suggestion from the opposition sides that the government should take them into confidence and discuss ways and means of solving the Punjab problem. The home minister in his reply reiterated that the government is prepared for a dialogue provided it is meaningful and not one-sided.

Sikhs Urged To Observe 16 Dec Protest Day

BK060609 Hong Kong AFP in English 0546 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Excerpt] New Delhi, Dec 6 (AFP) — Sikh leader Sant Harchand Longowal today called on Sikhs to observe December 16 as a protest day against what they see as government attempts to destroy Sikh philosophy and culture.

Mr. Longowal is the president of the Akali Dal Party which is pressing for greater autonomy for the mainly Sikh state of Punjab, northwest India.

Speaking to the press in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar he said that the federal government, under what he called a well planned conspiracy, was planning to capture Sikh temples. He gave no details of the planned protest action.

He said that the government in describing Akali militants as extremists, or secessionists and accusing them of sheltering criminals in Sikh temples, was looking for an excuse to send the police inside the Sikh shrines.

Indian police by tradition do not enter places of worship, although the government has threatened to send officers into the Golden Temple in Amritsar, where a number of wanted Sikh leaders are believed to be hiding.

Yesterday in the continuing violence in the state, activists gunned down a cigarette vendor in Amritsar. The Sikhs want a government ban on cigarette and liquor sales in Amritsar.

Leaders Comment on Pakistani Arms Increase

Venkataraman on Border Defenses

BK021004 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] The defense minister, Mr Venkataraman, informed the Lok Sabha that Pakistan is enlarging its armaments far beyond its legitimate needs. He said the government is aware that Pakistan has strengthened its defenses along the border. Available information suggests that Pakistan is continuing its efforts to acquire enriched uranium and nuclear fuel reprocessing capability. This will enable it to detonate a nuclear device.

Rao on U.S.-Supplied Missiles

BK021000 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] Government is concerned about the U.S. move to increase the quantity of Harpoon missiles to be supplied to Pakistan. The external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, told the Rajya Sabha today that this poses a greater security threat to India, and government would take appropriate measures to counter it. He said Harpoon is a new generation missile which can fly at low heights, is very acurate, and difficult to detect. Mr Rao replied in the affirmative when asked whether the United States has sold about 100 Harpoon missiles and other sophisticated weapons to Pakistan recently.

He said India has been given to understand by the U.S. officials that the classified notification sent to the Senate by the American Administration recently related to Harpoon missiles. There are reports to suggest that the reason for classifying the notification was that the number of Harpoon missiles to be supplied to Pakistan is yet to be finalized. Mr Rao said a protest has already been lodged with the U.S. Government.

3 Retired Defense Officers Arrested for Leaks

BK061016 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Defense Minister Mr Venkataraman today confirmed reports of the arrest of three retired defense officers on charges of leaking official secrets. In a statement in the Rajya Sabha, he said on the information furnished by an Air Force officer investigations were carried out which led to the arrest of some persons. He assured the house that steps have been taken to prevent leakage of any classified information. A similar statement was made by the minister of state for defense, Mr K. P. Singh Deo, in the Lok Sabha.

Naval Chief Discusses Modernization Plan

BK020714 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] The Indian Navy is being modernized by acquiring sophisticated arms. The chief of naval staff, Admiral Dawson, told newsmen in Cochin that the first batch of four British-made Sea Harrier aircraft will be delivered by the end of this year. The versatile jet can take off vertically and land in any small place. Admiral Dawson said that the first West German submarine will be acquired by the Navy in about 2 years time.

Sri Lankan Tamil Solidarity Conference Ends

BK050707 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Text] The international conference of solidarity with the Tamilians of Sri Lanka have called for preservation of human rights, dignity, and sovereignty of the community in the island. A 2-day meeting, which ended in Madras yesterday recommended the setting up of an international commission to fund a solution to the ethnic problems in Sri Lanka. The conference acknowledged and appreciated the initiatives taken by the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, in this regard.

Commentary Lauds Progress on Tamil Issue

BK051537 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1340 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Commentary: "Welcome Progress on Tamil Question" by S. Vishwam of *DECCAN HERALD*]

[Text] Although it is premature to raise high hopes, a solution to the complicated Tamil issue in Sri Lanka appears within sight. Unless fresh hitches develop in the near future, the broad framework of a solution arrived at New Delhi last week contains the promise of a settlement. This possibility has emerged as a result of President Jayewardene's talks in New Delhi with Mrs Gandhi and her special envoy Mr G. Parthasarathy. Some tentative proposals emerged during the negotiations which were carried on under the aegis of the offer of Indian good offices accepted by the Sri Lankan president. These proposals were also agreed to the leadership of the Tamil United Liberation Front [TULF] who were on hand at New Delhi and were constantly consulted by Mr Parthasarathy. [sentence as heard] The TULF leaders stipulated that if a solution acceptable to them could be found, they would abandon their (?insistence) on the creation of a separate Tamil Eelam state.

President Jayewardene, who had come to New Delhi to attend the Commonwealth summit, extended his stay by one day in order to be available for talks with Mrs Gandhi and Mr Parthasarathy. On return to Colombo, the Sri Lanka president announced that he was happy that the TULF leaders were on the way to giving up their separatist demand in the event of a mutually acceptable settlement. He also announced that he would place the tentative proposals which have been worked out by Mr Parthasarathy before an all-party conference in Colombo.

He indicated that the Tamil leaders would also be invited to attend that all-party roundtable. In the sense that Mr Parthasarathy was able to persuade the TULF leadership to consider giving up their separatist demand, the Indian good offices must be deemed to have proved extraordinarily useful. However, this agreement was preceded by painstaking negotiations. India is ccommitted to the unity and integrity of Sri Lanka and it was on this basis that the Indian good offices were put to use. The TULF general secretary, Mr Amirthalingam, has indicated that the roundtable conference would in all probability be held in the 3d week of December.

Meanwhile, during the negotiations in Delhi, the Tamil leaders were requested to consider the proposal made by President Jayewardene for creating a regional council with greater powers, both administrative and fiscal, for the Tamil areas. The TULF, however, insisted that the Tamil areas in the north and the northeastern districts should be brought under the jurisdiction of the proposed regional council. But Sri Lanka Government, on the other hand, maintains that some Tamil majority eastern districts as well as the port of Trincomalee should be left out of the purview of the regional council. There is also the question of the level and quantum of autonomy which will be allowed to the regional councils in the Tamil and Sinhalese majority areas. The Tamils naturally desire that these powers should be on par and there should be no discrimination against the Tamil areas. The government proposal, on the other hand, contemplates only giving minor powers to the regional councils in the Tamil areas.

Meanwhile, one tangible immediate benefit emerging from the negotiations is that President Jayewardene has agreed to postpone the by-elections to Parliament which were scheduled to be held soon and for which the electoral process was to commence on December the 8th. According to Mr Amirthalingam, the TULF leadership would like Mr Parthasarathy to be present in Colombo during the roundtable conference, although he might not participate in it. He has also disclosed that Mr Parthasarathy has suggested some kind of zonal council for the Tamil areas in the place of two regional councils since President Jayewardene had been against a single regional council for the north and eastern districts. In any case, roundtable conference would provide ample opportunities to the parties concerned to examine the proposals objectively and sympathetically. At least a beginning has been made in breaking the impasse after the tragic ethnic riots in the island nation some months ago. This is to be worked out.

Cabinet Approves Drug Trafficking Draft Orders

BK051446 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 4 Dec 83

[Excerpt] The Federal Cabinet meeting in Rawalpindi today under the chairmanship of the president, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, approved two draft amendment orders, one in respect to the Dangerous Drugs Act, 1930, and the other for Prohibition Order, 1979. These amendments provide imposition of maximum punishment of life imprisonment and minimum of 2 years with whipping not exeeding 30 lashes and fines for trafficking in opium or coca leaves and their derivatives. Similar punishments also will be given to people indulging in financing the traffickers of these narcotics, illegal import, export, shipment of dangerous and manufactured drugs, including opium, its derivatives, coca leaves, and its derivatives.

Those found in possession of heroin and cocaine over 10 grams and raw opium and coca leaves over 1 kg will also be liable to such punishments provided under the amendment.

The Cabinet considered at length the report by the Islamic Muasharah [Society] Committee. The committee was headed by the federal information minister, Raja Mohammad Zafarul Haq. It decided to constitute a committee at the federal level to ensure implementation of the recommendations contained in the report and to monitor its progress. Similar committees will also be formed in each province.

NWFP Governor on Narcotics Control, Afghan Refugees

GF041417 Rawalpindi PAKISTANI TIMES in English 22 Nov 83 p 5

[Text] Lahore, Nov. 21 (APP): The NWFP Governor Lt-Gen. Fazle Haq said here last night that concrete steps by the government in NWFP had helped check, to a great extent, the production of narcotics.

He disclosed that in order to combat this menace in the province 47 heroin laboratories and standing crops had been destroyed with the help of bulldozers.

He further said the government considered it as its legal and moral duty to check the production and use of narcotics in view of their adverse effects on the health of youth all over the world. The governor said heavy fines had also been imposed on the growers of narcotics. He, however, said alternate sources of income were being provided to them.

He said previously 800 tons of narcotics were grown in the northern areas which had now come down to only 60 tons. The cultivation of poppy in the settled areas had been completely eliminated, he added.

He also emphasised the need for interprovincial contacts between the people of different provinces, particularly, the journalists and intellectuals so as to foster great national unity. He said the Pakistani journalists should also visit the camps of Afghan refugees and write about the conditions prevailing there. The journalists from foreign countries did visit not only the refugee camps but also the areas inside Afghanistan and reported events unfolding there. But, he said very few Paksitanis undertook such visits.

Giving figures of Afghan refugees in Pakistan he said 20,50,000 people were now in NWFP, 40,000 in Punjab and another nine lakh in Baluchistan and northern areas.

He said the government was spending huge amounts on these refugees and there was no trouble at all due to their presence in Pakistan.

Finance Minister Returns From Bucharest

BK050916 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Text] Pakistan and Romania have agreed to increase bilateral trade to $200 million by 1985 from the present trade volume of $55 million. This was stated by Federal Finance Minister Ghulam Ishaq Khan on his return to Islamabad this morning from Bucharest where he attended the ninth session of the Pakistani-Romanian ministrial commission on scientific, technological, and economic cooperation.

The finance minister said Romanian President Ceausescu will visit Pakistan in February or March next year at the invitation of President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq.

Students Demonstrate To Support 'Long March'

GF041155 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 4 Dec 83 p 28

[By correspondent]

[Text] Islamabad — Schools and colleges of Rawalakot in Pakistan administered part of Kashmir were closed yesterday following a demonstration by students in support of a "long march" for democracy launched by the Azad Kashmir branch of the Pakistan People's Party [PPP].

Kashmir PPP sources told newsmen here that students held a largely attended meeting and took out a procession while similar meetings were held at nearby towns of Topa, Nakka Bazar, Thorar and Mang.

These sources further alleged that police have arrested about 450 persons in connection with the long march since it started on December 1 from Rawalakot to Islamabad in support of the civil disobedience movement launched by the opposition Movement for Restoration of Democracy. But official sources said only 40 have been held.

According to them the march which is due to end in Islamabad on Wednesday covering a distance of 130 kms, is continuing despite police attempts to block its way.

The marchers, these sources claimed, were passing through mountainous paths and jungle routes to outwit the police. But tomorrow they will face the heavily policed Pattan bridge on river Jhelum which serves as the only entry point into Pakistan.

Meanwhile another report from Karachi said Jamiat-e-Ulema Pakistan chief Maulana Shah Ahmed Noorani has called a meeting of a high-powered body of his party today to discuss second phase of its direct action programme launched three weeks ago for the restoration of democracy.

Till now this party has confined itself to turning Friday prayer congregations into protest meetings against martial law.

In Lahore about 200 workers of Pakistan National Party held demonstrations on Friday against martial law and the rising cost of living. Led by party leader Ramazan Niaz the workers took out a procession in the busy Anarkali market and then marched to nearby Mall Road where the meeting was addressed by Ramazan and other party leaders. The speakers expressed solidarity with the MRD movement. The protesters dispersed before police arrived on the spot.

Meanwhile Pakistani military authorities yesterday freed an ailing newspaper editor Mohammad Rafi Butt before he had completed a three month detention sentence imposed under martial law, members of his family said.

Butt, chief editor of the pro-opposition Urdu language daily *HAIDER* of Rawalpindi, was arrested in October for unexplained reasons.

Student Factions Clash at Karachi University
GF040948 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 20 Nov 83 p 1

[Text] Karachi, 11 Nov — During the morning hours of 11 November, firing continued from 0300 to 0730 between two student factions, called "Long Live Sind" and the Punjabi Students Federation, living in Qaid-e Azam Hostel and Iqbal Hostel respectively, on the Karachi University campus. The student factions, using revolvers, foreign-made automatic guns, fired some 250 rounds of ammunition at each other. The reason for the conflict has not been discovered as yet. Both the faction belong to the "United Students Movement." According to reports received, more firing took place between the same groups later in the day on 11 November.

JUP Leaders' Addresses at Protest Meeting Cited
GF021148 Karachi DAWN in English 26 Nov 83 p 10

[Text] Maulana Shah Ahmad Noorani, president of the defunct Jamiat-ul-Ulema-i-Pakistan (JUP), has said that the longer the martial law stays, the situation in the country will further "deteriorate."

Adderessing a protest meeting held at Jinnah Masjid on Burns Road, Karachi, yesterday, he emphasised it was time to realise that only an elected government had the will and the popular sanction to tackle the sensitive issues facing the country.

The maulana rejected the notion that mosques should not be made an arena of political activity and said Islamic history was a witness to the fact that mosques had consistently remained a nerve centre of the faithfuls' socio-cultural and political activities.

Referring to his party's campaign, Maulana Noorani said the question of holding public meetings in support of democracy was under consideration and the decision would be announed at an appropriate time.

Prof. Shah Faridul Haq, secretary-general of the defunct JUP, in his speech referred to the provincial government's denial of the figure of 500 dead in the recent disturbances in Sind. He explained that Maulana Noorani on behalf of the visiting delegation of the Sind Unity Board, had given the estimate of those killed in Sind on the basis of what the delegation had heard from the concerned people.

He said there was no reason to doubt the people's evidence. However, if the figure of the dead, as claimed by the provincial government, was wrong, the government should accede to the Sind Unity Board's demand and appoint a high-powered judicial commission to investigate the matter.

Sufi Ayaz Khan and Maulana Abbas Qadri of Hyderabad also addressed the congregation.

Similar protest meetings of the defunct JUP were held in other mosques of the city.

Air Chief Praises 'Jetstream' Exercises
GF041459 Rawalpindi PAKISTANI TIMES in English 26 Nov 83 p 10

[Text] Karachi, Nov. 25 (APP): Air Chief Marshal Mohammad Anwar Shamim, chief of the air staff, said today that the current "Jetstream" exercise, like the ones held earlier, had done a lot to generate confidence in the PAF [Pakistan Air Force] about its ability to fulfill its assigned task, says an ISPR [Interservices Public Relations] press release.

Addressing air and ground crews during his day-long visits to two sectors of the exercise in the southern air command area, the chief of the air staff said PAF was medium sized air force, with limited resources, which had to provide effective defence against forces many times its own size. The only way to discharge its sacred duty, therefore, was to maintain it at a high pitch of efficiency with optimum utilisation of what was available.

He said the exercises of the Jetstream series had proved most useful as they had helped build up confidence of PAF personnel in themselves, their equipment and their commanders as well as provided opportunities to the air force to test and validate its concepts and evaluate its combat potential and overall effectiveness.

Speaking of the "exceptionally encouraging" results achieved in flying, maintenance, logistics and other fields, during the current exercise, the air chief acknowledged the efforts of the personnel involved and said their spirit was a source of great strength to the PAF.

The air chief's inspection started with a comprehensive briefing by the air officer commanding, southern air command, Air Vice-Marshal Syed Moinur Rub, who reviewed the air defences and naval support operations carried out in the third phase. The PAF tested its naval-air support concepts and seaward air defence in southern Pakistan.

The briefing covered deployment and redeployment of forces, intensity of flying, nature of missions flown during the air defence and maritime phases as well as performances of participating units and weapon-systems. The results showed that not only serviceability and reliability of aircraft and other equipment but also success rates of missions flown were most heartening. Despite the intensity and effectiveness of flying, safety of operations has been maintained.

This was followed by extensive tour of two sectors of the exercise during which Air Chief Marshal Shamim received briefings from the respective base and squandron commanders, met the pilots as well as the personnel engaged in ground support operations and talked to them informally about the conduct of the exercise and their individual performances. The air chief also participated in one of the naval support missions to the sea.

DAWN Editorial Views Bangladesh Situation

GF030540 Karachi DAWN in English 28 Nov 83 p 5

[Editorial: "Portents in Bangladesh"]

[Text] General H.M. Ershad's offer to the opposition leaders for talks to ensure a peaceful transfer of power is unlikely to go very far in defusing the tension which is building up in Bangladesh. The offer for negotiations seems to have come too late. The ground for political confrontation had already been laid a few weeks back when the opposition in Bangladesh successfully organised a series of strikes in the country. General Ershad's broadcast of November 14 announcing the election schedule escalated his problem. Since he did not accept the opposition's major demand that parliamentary election be held before the presidential poll, his offer has been rejected by the two major opposition alliances of 22 parties. In that context, it is not surprising that the invitation to the opposition for talks, which was first extended soon after the election announcement a fortnight back and has now been renewed, does not hold forth thepromise of pacifying the majority opposition groups. In effect, they are being asked to negotiate on General Ershad's own terms. Moreover, other developments that have taken place in the last fortnight tend to confirm the opposition's fear that the electoral contest will not be an equal one. In the first place, General Ershad has now announced that he is launching a new party, the Jana Dal, and he will be contesting the presidential election as its candidate. As the incumbent ruler, he will enjoy certain advantages over his rivals, especially if martial law continues to hold the field. Secondly, General Ershad has made it clear that the army will have a role in the governing of the country after the elections. In view of the position adopted by the military leader, it is not surprising if he has failed to reach some kind of modus vivendi with political leaders in the opposition.

The confrontation which is now taking shape in Bangladesh between the government and the opposition could have far-reaching implications for the political process in that country. With the opposition now determined to come out in the streets, as is indicated by the planned sit-in before the secretariat today, the government might find itself left with little option but to use force to suppress the agitation. General Ershad has warned that his government would "maintain law and order at any cost." This is to be expected because General Ershad would obviously not want the Islamic foreign ministers' conference to be held at Dhaka on December 6 to be disrupted, although resort to coercive measures could be quite embarrassing for the host government. More serious than the external implications of a confrontationist course is its likely impact on politics in Bangladesh. It could easily slide into chaos and political instability. With the country having undergone a period of strife and turmoil in the early years of its independence, no one in Bangladesh would normally welcome another phase of uncertainty, lawlessness and economic disruption. In the interest of peace and stability, it seems desirable for General Ershad to try to enter into a dialogue with the opposition on a new basis. The framework for the restoration of the democratic process needs to be negotiated with the mutual agreement of all major parties in Bangladesh.

NEPAL

King's Message to Nation Before U.S. Trip

BK011735 Katmandu External Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Text] His Majesty King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev in a message to the nation before departure on a state visit to the United States of America today has said: At the friendly invitation of His Excellency Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America, we along with the queen are leaving today for Washington D.C. on a state visit to that country. We also intend to visit a few other countries en route.

His majesty the king said: As is well known, it has been our constant endeavor to seek for the Nepalese people an all-round development in the pursuit of a policy of nonalignment [words indistinct] with a widening search for a recognition of Nepal [words indistinct] zone of peace. Nevertheless, in the world of [words indistinct] from time to time and develop contacts with a view to create an atmosphere conducive to peace and conformity with the national aspirations. I am happy to note that Nepal's friends and well wishers have grown steadily in the past years.

His majesty said: In this context the present visit assumes a significant important in its own right. The United States is not only a country that has made some of the magnificent advances in science and technology, but it is also the one with which we share in common the (?value) of independence and dignity for man. Moreover, over the years the United States has remained a steady friend and partner of [words indistinct] for Nepal. It is only natural, therefore, that we seek contact at the level of state with a view to further the good will and cooperation [words indistinct] between our two countries. It is with deep consideration that we have accepted with pleasure the invitation to visit the United States. We are confident that our contact with important leaders from different parts of the United States will help to further strengthen the cooperation between Nepal and America. In the same spirit, our visits en route to friendly countries like Switzerland, Luxembourg, and Japan will, I hope, contribute to further the interests of Nepal.

His majesty the king concluded: We have constituted a council of royal Nepalese [word indistinct] under the chairmanship of our brother His Royal Highness Prince Gyanendra Bir Bikram Shah to discharge duties on our behalf during our absence. The Council of Ministers will carry out the day to day administration. We are confident that all our countrymen will, as always, contribute to the maintenance of peace for the good of Nepal and the Nepalese. Many Lord Pashupatinath bless us all.

SRI LANKA

President Jayewardene Meets With Party Leaders

BK041400 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 4 Dec 83

[Text] The Sri Lanka president, Mr Jayewardene, met some party leaders yesterday to work out the modalities of an all-party conference for solving the Tamil problem. He agreed to place before the all-party conference to be convened in the middle of this month the tentative proposals which emerged during the talks he had with Mrs Gandhi and her envoy, Mr G. Parthasarathy.

Mr Jayewardene had detailed consultations with the leader of the opposition, Mr A. Bandaranaike, and the leaders of the Communist Party and All-Ceylon Tamil Congress. He is due to meet leaders of the other recognized parties in the next 2 days.

MP's Discuss Weinberger Visit, Foreign Policy

BK051213 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Text] The (?works) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were taken up for discussion in Parliament this morning. Speaking during the debate, the member of Parliament for Attanagala, Lakshman Jayakody, raised the question whether the visit of the defense secretary of the United States, Caspar Weinberger, to Sri Lanka and the Trincomalee harbor had any connection. He said that no foreign power will be permitted to get a hold in the Trincomalee area. He requested the government not to allow any big powers to interfere in our affairs. He also said that measures should be taken to see that the image of the country [words indistinct]. Mr Jayakody said that our ambassadors were doing a good job in this regard.

The member of Parliament for Kalawana, Sarath Muttetuwegama, asked what Sri Lanka's stand was in relation to the deployment of American missiles in Western Europe. He said the government should clarify the state of Indo-Sri Lanka relations. He added that the conference on the Indian Ocean [words indistinct] peace have been postponed as America was unclear about these relations. He exposed the fact that while government did place restrictions on certain foreign diplomats and journalists in Sri Lanka, the government had permitted the Voice of America to set up a transmitting station here. Mr Muttetuwegama raised the question as to whether the state [words indistinct] radio station. He added that a systematic program was necessary in the recruitment of personnel for overseas service.

In reply to several questions raised in the house, minister of lands, land development, and Mahaweli development, Gamini Dissanayake, said the U.S. defense secretary was in Sri Lanka only on a very brief stopover. Referring to questions raised by the MP for Attanagala, Mr Dissanayake said that there had been no serious discussions during the talks that Caspar Weinberger had.

The minister said that Sri Lanka followed a policy of nonalignment. Sri Lanka was not a stooge of any country. Mr Dissanakaye emphasized that Sri Lanka's foreign policy had been formulated according to the needs of the nation.

Police Sentry Shot at Home Minister's Residence

BK031134 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Text] An incident of shooting in the early hours of Wednesday, 30 November, resulted in the death of a police sentry on duty at the residence of K.W. Devanayagam, minister of home affairs, in the Batticaloa District. According to a press release from the information department, the shooting is suspected to be the work of a small splinter group in the Batticaloa District, which has come under severe pressures from the police during the past few weeks. Most of the members of this group are presently in police custody and many of the firearms which were in their possession have been recovered.

Briefs

Counterfeit Dollars — The CID [Criminal Investigation Department] has busted a counterfeit dollar racket allegedly masterminded by an international organization. The notes are said to be smuggled here from Thailand, Hong Kong, and Pakistan. CID sleuths yesterday raided a house in Kollupitiya and took into custody two Pakistanis who had in their possession a stock of counterfeit notes. The CID sleuths are trying to determine whether some employees of the duty free shopping complex have been assisting the alleged racketeers. [Text] [Colombo *SUN* in English 28 Nov 83 p 1 BK]

Comments on U.S. Air Attacks in Lebanon

Foreign Ministry Official

GF051700 Tehran IRNA in English 1558 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 5, IRNA — A spokesman for Foreign Affairs Ministry, commenting on the recent attack of U.S. fighters on parts of Lebanon, said here today that plots of imperialism in Lebanon has [as received] entered a new era.

Morteza Sarmadi said that the attacks were carried out in coordination with the Zionist regime. The spokesman pointed out that the new era was characterised by open support of imperialism for the Zionist forces and also direct confrontation with the revolutionary Muslims of Lebanon.

Culmination of mass uprising of the shackled Muslims of Lebanon against the forces occupying the holy Quds and their allies, the U.S. and France, has placed the intervention forces in a critical situation. As a result, the intervention forces have ignored their so called peace keeping mission and have become one of the warring parties and have revealed their role as forces to support the Zionist regime.

Referring to the successful operations of the Syrian forces in downing three U.S. fighter planes, he said that it was now clear for the Islamic world that in order to defend their dignity and homelands against repeated aggression of imperialism and Zionism, there was no alternative but to close their ranks and launch armed struggle.

Some 24 American planes attacked eastern Lebanon Sunday morning which caused damage to several villages. Three of the American (?planes) were downed by Syrian anti-aircraft artillery.

Majlis Speaker

LD061032 Tehran IRNA in English 0900 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Tehran, Dec 6 IRNA — Majlis speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said here Tuesday that air attack of U.S. planes on Lebanon's central mountains and combatant Syrian forces could be considered as a very important event at international level.

Speaking at today's Majlis open session, Hashemi-Rafsanjani noted that this incident was a serious threat against the future of Islamic world, especially the Arab world.

The Islamic Republic of Iran considered this danger seriously and, therefore, could not remain indifferent towards this impudent action committed by the U.S., the uninvited guest in the region.

The joint U.S., French, and Zionist attack against Lebanon's central mountains, was a non-declared alliance of enemies of Islam in an Islamic land, the Majlis speaker remarked.

On the threshold of the formation [as received] of OPEC oil ministers, Rafsanjani stressed that he expected Muslim governments and nations to use, for the first time, oil as a weapon to pressure the U.S. and its allies to abandon its support for the Zionist regime.

He noted that cooperation of the U.S. and France with the Zionist regime, which was officially announced, was a making face against Islam [as received], adding that it was due to the weakness and discord dominating over Arab and Islamic society.

Rafsanjani stressed that the Islamic Republic believed the U.S. and its friends should leave regional waters, both the Indian Ocean and Mediterranean Sea. Their presence in the region would pose a danger of the breaking out of a fierce fire, the Majlis speaker said.

He urged the conference of foreign ministers of Islamic countries in Bangladesh meet, and other international Islamic organisations to pay attention to the issue and exert pressure to make the region free from the danger of superpowers.

Arabic Commentary

GF060610 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 5 Nov 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpt] The flagrant U.S. aggression against the positions of the Lebanese nationalist movement and the Syrian forces have brought new grave dimensions to the Lebanese crisis. Those who are concerned with the Lebanese issue fear that Lebanese territories will be converted into an arena for the dispute of the international arrogance which is represented in the Eastern and the Western bloc. The basic fault about the presence of U.S. forces in Lebanon is that it is paving the way for endless disputes among the two camps. This will push the Lebanese issue into the arena of the confrontation between the two superpowers. The mere presence of U.S. forces in Lebanon is a step toward transferring the dispute in Lebanon to the international level. What if this presence were backed by a firm series of flagrant aggressions against the Lebanese territories? [as heard]

We would like to remind the world of the position of the Islamic Republic of Iran when the U.S. Marines arrived in Lebanon over a year ago. At that time, the Islamic Republic of Iran voiced its just position. It said that the U.S. presence will make the situation very tense, and that the U.S. forces neither came for peace nor for full withdrawal of [word indistinct] forces but only with the aim of perpetrating aggression -- not only against Lebanon but also against other parts of the Islamic world.

Seda-ye Iran: Relations With Syria Strained

GF051020 (Clandestine) Seda-ye Iran in Persian 1930 GMT 4 Dec 83

[Text] Reports received from Tehran indicate that the relations between the Islamic Republic and Syria have become strained after the bombing of the revolution guards headquarters in Ba"labakk by French Super Etendard planes which killed 14 and wounded more than 30 of the Khomeyni mercenaries stationed there. The reports conclude that the clerics of the Islamic Repub-

lican regime are very angered because the Syrian regime has shown no reaction to the bombing.

The clerics have also threatened that if Syria refuses to admit more revolution guards to the Ba'labakk camp, Iran will stop its oil to Syria. However, the Islamic Republic has not directly voiced its displeasure with Damascus but has used Akhund Falsafi who holds no official position in [words indistinct]. Akhund Falsafi, in a service held for the dead revolution guards at Ba'labakk, strongly condemned the Damascus regime.

Trial of Tudeh Party Members Begins
LD0060957 Tehran IRNA in English 0912 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 6, IRNA — The trial of five members of the defunct Tudeh Party's secret organisation was started at the army's revolutionary tribunal this morning.

The five are charged with taking measures against security of the Islamic Republic, espionage against the country, and membership and having activities in secret organisations with an objective to overthrow the Islamic Republic.

The first open session of the trial, presided over by Hojjat ol-Eslam Reyshahri, chief judge and head of the army revolutionary tribunals, started at 1030 (local time) with recitation of verses from holy Koran.

Musavi Comments on OPEC Policy, Elections
LD0060051 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Text] In an exclusive interview this afternoon with our correspondent, Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi said: The policy of the Islamic Republic in the next OPEC conference will be to attempt to reduce the level of production and to increase the price of oil.

Referring to the fact that, to please their American master, agents are trying these days to increase production and reduce the price, Musavi added: Their attempts are in fact a gift which the reactionary leaders dependent upon America are giving in order to protect their thrones. They are stealing from the pockets of their onw nations and presenting this to Reagan and the American capitalists, just to protect themselves. If this situation continues — which is, in fact, a betrayal of the oppressed people — it is clear that they will be confronted by their own nations. What concerns us is that we cannot remain silent and see that a number of people are plundering the wealth of the Muslims for the sake of protecting themselves.

The prime minister added: A number of those countries have announced with complete impudence that they are selling oil on behalf of Iraq as well. We announce to them that they have gone too far and that it is not in their interest to confront the Islamic Revolution so openly and to announce their hostility toward it. They should known that this revolution is deeply rooted among 1 billion Muslims of the world and their nations are also parts of this 1 billion Muslims who would sit in judgment concerning their deeds. In addition to that, to support a declining regime, they are confronting a power in the region which has the ability to punish the conspirators. Would it not be more in their interest to be alongside that power rather than confronting it?

Musavi continued: In any case, in our view, all should try to bring the price of oil to its realistic value, and 34 dollars per barrel is the minimum. One should make this clear to those nations whose leaders are acting in America's interest.

Concerning the future elections of the Majlis, the prime minister said: The executive power is fully prepared to hold the elections in a satisfactory manner. God willing, when the elections bill is approved, the government will hold the elections at the earliest possible time. God willing, this will be done with complete propriety, as should be expected from the executive power of an Islamic order. Hereby, I ask all the officials and government employees throughout the country to show complete impartiality in all their tasks concerning the elections.

Musavi added: It is natural for the people, the clergy, and Islamic organizations to be very active in the elections and in putting forth the candidates. However, the governors general and governors should be careful that they do not make use of their positions and the facilities at their disposal to support this or that candidate. Certainly, the nongovernmental figures should also not expect the officials, especially the governors general and governors, to do otherwise. Of course, the governors general and governors should try to provide necessary facilities for people's participation in the elections.

IRNA Report
GF051746 Tehran IRNA in English 1721 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Text] Tehran, Dec 5, IRNA — Efforts to hike (oil) production and cut prices is in fact a gift from dependent reactionary rulers (of the region) to the U.S. for preserving their throne. They steal from the pockets of their people and hand it over to Reagan and American capitalists...and if this continues they are actually committing treason towards Muslims, Prime Minister Musavi said today.

Speaking in an interview with Iranian television, Mr Musavi said as far as we are concerned, we cannot remain silent and watch a group let the Muslims be plundered for the sake of their own protection.

He also blasted some of these countries who have announced the sale of oil on behalf of Iraq.

We will say to some of these countries...that you have gone too far and it is not in your benefit to rise against the Islamic revolution to this extent.

You should be aware that this revolution has roots in one billion Muslims. Our nation is part of this one billion people and it will judge your actions, the prime minister said.

The prime minister said that the Islamic Republic had the strength to punish the conspirators.

Oil Minister Mohammad Gharazi said today that the Islamic Republic will strongly demand an increase in the oil price to 34 dollars per barrel in Wednesday's meeting of the OPEC oil ministers in Geneva.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,564

LD051902 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Communique No 1,564 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. We express our condolences on the martyrdom of the eighth imam, His Holiness 'Ali Musa ar-Riza, to the lovers of the progeny of the prophet, may God's peace and blessings be upon him.

The exchange of heavy weapons fire continued on the northwestern fronts of the country yesterday. Islam forces' fire on enemy positions on the Piranshahr, Hajj 'Umran, and Sar Dasht operational fronts destroyed 19 enemy vehicles and 1 ammunition depot.

On the western fronts, our forces defended the positions under their protection and dispatched patrol groups to control enemy movements. Also, our engineering units cleared several minefields. Our forces fired on enemy positions and fortifications on these fronts, damaging one enemy motor pool and three engineering vehicles. On the Mehran front, our patrol units transported weapons left by the enemy to behind the lines.

On the southern fronts, our fighters protected the area under their control and disrupted the activities of enemy infantry units trying to repair minefields and to dig trenches along various parts of their defense lines.

During the exchange of fire on the banks of the Arvand Rud, the fighting units of Islam killed a number of Iraqi personnel and set fire to four of their foxholes and slit trenches.

Enemy long-range weapons fire damaged a house in Abadan yesterday.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Resolution Issued at End of Mobilization Week

LD021559 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] On the last day of the week of the mobilization of the oppressed — Labbayk Ya Khomeyni Day — the combative forces of the mobilization unit, together with Hezbollah members who are always present on the scene, took part in the Friday prayers.

According to reports from our correspondents, the forces of the oppressed mobilization assembled at Tehran's six bases early this morning and marched toward Tehran University. They chanted various slogans and demonstrated their readiness to confront world arrogance and to fight the Zionist Iraqi mercenaries.

At the conclusion of the week of mobilization of the oppressed, an 8-point resolution was issued by members of the 20 million-strong army. Emphasizing their unrestrained and total support for the principle of clerical rule and the imam of the nation's directives, the resolution reads in part: The oppressed mobilization continues to support the gracious guidance issued by the hope of the imam, the Grand Ayatollah Montazeri, the strong ties of the mobilization forces with the militant clergy, and the preservation of mosques as the loftiest and best bases for the mobilization. With the aim of carrying out the preparatory plan for the liberation of Al-Quds and to increase organization, we are following the guidance of the imam of the nationand the commander in chief on the speedy formation of a joint defense army of more than 100 million trained reservists. An army of dozens of millions of men is called to defend Islamic countries. The 20 million-strong army is prepared to put the experiences gained by the oppressed mobilization at the disposal of the world's Muslim nations.

The issue of the imposed war, as the main problem facing the Muslim nation, and the continuation of the war until final victory; the crushing of the conspiracies and intrigues by the enemies of the revolution; the utilization of all resources and forces of mobilization for the liberation of Karbala and the noble Al-Quds; severe confrontation with any aggressive move by the superpowers in the Persian Gulf region; calling on the nation for speedy training in arts of war and to join the ranks of the 20 million-strong army in order to defend Islam and the Islamic homeland — these are the matters emphasized in the resolution of the oppressed mobilization unit of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps.

NVOI Commentary Views Mobilization Week

TA022039 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Unattributed commentary: "Fate of Popular Mobilization"]

[Excerpts] Dear compatriots: The cowardly torture, repression, and murder of the best sons of our homeland on the charge of struggling to expand and perpetuate the revolution, on the one hand, and astounding high costs, depriving working people of the most elementary means of life, and continuing the ruinous and destructive war, on the other, have made the people's patience run out.

Leaders of the Islamic Government are observing the indignation and hatred of the million-strong masses of toilers toward them and are sensing that like the last 1 or 2 years of the rule of the shah's oppressive era, Iran is on the verge of a great explosion. For this reason, every day and hour they hold ceremonies to mark this or that week so that they may be able to preoccupy and deceive the people further.

One of these puppet shows is the declaration of the week of mobilization of the oppressed. Without the slightest shame, the hypocritical and superficial clergy and other leaders of the

Islamic Government are claiming that mobilization of the oppressed has been established, allegedly with a single prophet-like signal by the leader of the world's oppressed, to defend Islam.

Everyone, including these hypocritical and lying clergy, knows and remembers well that the popular mobilization and 20 million-strong army of toilers was organized during the revolution and in the initial months following the revolution's victory by the people themselves, and under the leadership of progressive and revolutionary parties and organizations, and foremost of all by the Tudehis, mojahedin, and Feda'is. None of the clergy, even Ayatollah Khomeyni, had any role in its establishment, with the exception of a limited number of the combatant clergy, such as Ayatollah Taleqani, who were in contact with the mojahedin. During the revolution and in the initial months following the revolution's victory, the mobilization's main and basic duty was defense of the revolution and suppression of the counterrevolution.

The mobilization formed the core and foundation of a voluntary 20 million-strong army. The Tudehis, the Feda'is, and mojahedin and the struggling Muslims were the pioneers of this army. Gradually, after key posts in the Islamic Government were seized by the agents of imperialism, landlords and major capitalists, the Islamic Government endeavored to neutralize the work of the mobilization. Since the prestige and popularity of the mobilization among the people, particularly peasants, was enormous, leaders of the Islamic Government could not disband the mobilization openly. For this reason they sought the help of the imam of the nation, and by issuing a decree integrating the mobilization into the Guards Corps he rendered the greatest service to the Iranian arrogant people.

Currently no trace remains of that truly popular mobilization and of that truly voluntary 20 million-strong army. By instigating superstition and religious fanaticism among the youth, leaders of the Islamic Government have formed a so-called voluntary army of about 3 million. We ourselves have not stated this, but rather it has been published by *CUMHURIYET*, one of the mass circulation newspapers of the brother and Muslim country, as called by leaders of the Islamic Republic, that is, Turkey. This same Muslim and brother newspaper adds that Khomeyni is sending the youngsters to the hell of war and is promising them paradise after death. These youngsters are the cannonfodder of the Iran-Iraq war — a war whose casulaties have reached more than 200,000.

As you are observing, the Turkish Muslim brothers of the ruling circle of the Islamic Republic of Iran, too, are laughing at the claim that the army which currently has been reduced from 20 million to 3 million, is voluntary.

Yes, the experienced youths at the battlefronts of the revolution have now realized the obvious treacheries of the government's leaders and are not ready to voluntarily become the tool of the ominous aims of imperialist agents and hypocritical clergy that support the interests of exploiters. Whether they implore and moan or intimidate and threaten, leaders of the Islamic Government should know that the aware masses will no longer blindly obey the deceitful hypocrites. Of course, a popular mobilization and a voluntary 20 million-strong army will indeed be formed, but with the aim of saving the revolution from turbaned and hypocritical traitors who support the wealthy.

Radio Iran Reports on Fighting in Sanandaj

GF060830 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 5 Dec 83

[Text] The Iranian Kurds who have been fighting the Khomeyni regime for the past 4 years again managed to liberate Sanandaj for one night. By killing 250 of Khomeyni's agents, they managed to show their fighting power in Kordestan.

The latest reports show that the city of Sanandaj was under the occupation of the Kurdish fighters from the evening of Wednesday until sometime during the following Thursday [30 November-1 December] and that during the period, law enforcement personnel and armed zealots did not dare come out of their bases.

During the recent clashes, the armed religious zealots killed a large number of innocent people in Kordestan by bombing villages. Kurdish sources have stated that Khomeyni's regime has repeatedly used napalm bombs and chemical weapons to murder villagers during these armed raids.